



**DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY AND FIRE PROTECTION**  
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**Date:** April 18, 2014

Attachment 3

**To:** Ronny J. Coleman, Chairman  
Statewide Training and Education Advisory Committee  
c/o State Fire Training

**From:** Rodney Slaughter, Deputy State Fire Marshal

**Subject/Agenda Action Item:** Reaccreditation of Los Angeles Fire Department (ALA)

**Recommended Actions:**

The accreditation site team recommends that Los Angeles Fire Department becomes reaccredited as an Accredited Local Academy (ALA) in the State Fire Training (SFT) System.

**Background Information:**

The site team consisted Ken Kehmna, STEAC Representative, Sam Di Giovanna, Fire Technology Director, Mike Garcia, SFT and Rodney Slaughter, SFT.

The Los Angeles Fire Department was originally accredited under a consortium of agencies called the Greater Los Angeles Regional Fire Academy (GLARFA). That consortium is now defunct and Los Angeles Fire Department (LAFD) is re-applying as an Accredited Local Academy (ALA). The department provides CFSTES, FSTEP, CICC classes to all their employees and occasionally provides open enrollment classes to other area fire departments.

The fire training staff and administrative support are very familiar with SFT business processes and procedures and they are very mindful of the changes occurring in the system.

**Analysis/Summary of Issue:**

The site team met with Chief Corey Rose and Gregg Galvez at the Frank Hotchkin Memorial Training Center. A tour of the historic facility reveals capabilities that are being capitalized, such as the refurbishment of the basement swimming pool that will allow for water skills testing.

The LAFD has made a significant investment in training infrastructure both hardware and software to meet the current needs of their department as well as the projected needs into the future. Using SFT's Blueprint 2020 and Mission Alignment they have been able to identify the resources they will need to keep pace with the changes in the SFT System.

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The team then toured Station 81 where a majority of the fire academy training takes place. Here, the commitment to state-of-the-art was even more evident. The fire academy issues notepad computers to each of the students. From these devices the student's progress in terms of test and exam score's, and assignments are recorded. Through the tablets students have up to the minute references and assignment materials along with access to a wide array of training resources.

The training tower and surrounding training props, tools, equipment, and apparatus can easily support the size and maintenance needs of the LAFD Fire Academy. LAFD continues to show its commitment to fire training with a large staff reviewing and updating curriculum, developing instructional materials and providing skills evaluators.

The team returned to Frank Hotchkins Memorial Training Center and met with Dr. Sharon A. Johnson, Professor East Los Angeles College. She explained the contractual working relationship established with the Department to provide college credit of training programs that Fire Department members attend. The college further supports the fire department with a revenue share of student contact hours.

The site team did not note any deficiencies on the tour of the training center. The program has an adequate (and enviable) amount of tools, equipment, and props to adequately serve the students and the staff. The site team unanimously agreed that LAFD meets all the SFT criteria to become reaccredited as an Accredited Local Academy (ALA).